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use of the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA). The interface includes a definition for a struct which only includes at least one attribute but no operation. Furthermore, the interface provides a factory for retrieving these structs, and creating objects representing elements of the communication network.

In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) A method of operating a communication network with a network management system, wherein said communication network comprises a number of objects being stored in a database on a server, and wherein said network management system is located on the server which can be accessed by a client, said method of operating the communication network comprises the transmission of data between the server and the client under the use of the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA), said method comprising using a definition for a struct which only includes at least one attribute but no operation.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising using a definition for an interface that only includes an operation but not necessarily any attribute.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising including a reference to said struct in said interface.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising that an instruction from the client which is directed to the struct on the server, results in sending data from the server to the client.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4 further comprising not storing the data sent to the client on the server.

6. (Amended) A computer program for executing a method of operating a communication network with a network management system when run on a data processing system such as a computer, wherein said communication network

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comprises a number of objects being stored in a database on a server, and wherein said network management system is located on the server which can be accessed by a client, said method of operating the communication network comprises the transmission of data between the server and the client under the use of the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA), said method comprising using a definition for a struct which only includes at least one attribute but no operation.

Please add the following new claims:

10. (Newly added) The computer program of claim 6, wherein said computer program is stored on a data carrier.

11. (Newly added) A computer program product for executing a method of operating a communication network with a network management system when run on a data processing system such as a computer, wherein said communication network comprises a number of objects being stored in a database on a server, and wherein said network management system is located on the server which can be accessed by a client, said method of operating the communication network comprises the transmission of data between the server and the client under the use of the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA), said method comprising using a definition for a struct which only includes at least one attribute but no operation.

12. (Newly added) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein said computer program product is stored on a data carrier.